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FILE *Meetings*
4 May 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Communications/OPPB Hearing, 1 May 1970

PRESENT:

[redacted]
O-DD/S; Messrs. Knoche [redacted]
O/PPB.

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1. [redacted] D/CO, opened the hearing by briefly reviewing the history of the Office of Communications since World War II; characterizing the 1950's as a period of growth using primarily manual equipment, through the 1960's with its automation and expansion, to current plans for satellite communications.

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2. Going on to the written questions (see attached list), Question No. 1 was answered with the attached handout. Hank Knoche asked if [redacted] were trying to do anything about reducing their traffic. [redacted] replied that they were but that their moves were only effective while pressure was maintained. In speaking about the Commo overseas reductions, he emphasized that the present crisis in [redacted] is supported by only two communicators at the moment. [redacted] then asked why we did not refuse to fulfill some of the requests for communications service, to which Dick replied that we have in many cases been forced to limit Commo service, as in [redacted] also inquired whether the Agency member on the committee on reducing traffic had been able to make any progress. The answer was in the negative.

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[redacted] feels that the BOB will ask this Fall about efforts to reduce traffic, to which all agreed. The Office of Communications will update the handout chart for the BOB hearing in the Fall. Question No. 2 on [redacted] was answered by a statement that we were updating cost estimates at this time. If available in time for the Program Memorandum, they will be supplied. Question No. 3 was answered by [redacted] -- that the alternative was simply buying less with the emphasis that to defer means an eventual making-up with consequent tremendous dollar requirements as well as workload requirements. At this point, as in several other points in the briefing, it was reiterated that the

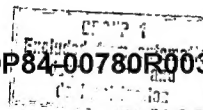
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No. 6 had been adequately covered in the introduction. Regarding Question No. 7 on [redacted] explaining the routing of messages in detail. He stated that we were currently "debugging" or testing the system, but Commo felt that they could answer the question

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Approved For Release 2005/06/22 : CIA-RDP84-00780R003400010035-8

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